

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A stable pharmaceutical formulation of erythropoietin containing tris-(hydroxymethyl)-aminomethane as stabilizer, whereby the formulation does not contain amino acids or human serum albumin, further wherein the pH of the formulation ranges from 5.9 to 6.8.
2. (Previously Presented) A stable pharmaceutical formulation of claim 1 comprising:
 - a) as a pH buffering agent a sodium phosphate buffer,
 - b) as stabilizer tris-(hydroxymethyl)-aminomethane in an amount of 10 to 200 mM, and
 - c) a pharmaceutical quantity of erythropoietin.
3. (Original) The formulation of claim 2 which comprises NaCl in an amount of 20-150 mM.
4. (Previously Presented) The formulation according to claim 3 wherein the amount of NaCl ranges from 50 to 100 mM.
5. (Previously Presented) The formulation of claim 1 which is an aqueous formulation.
6. (Previously Presented) The formulation of claim 2 wherein the pH buffering agent has the formula $\text{Na}_x\text{H}_y\text{PO}_4$ wherein x is 1 or 2 and y is 1 or 2 and the sum of x and y is 3 whereby the pH buffering agent is present in the pharmaceutical formulation in a range of 5 mM to 50 mM.

7. (Canceled) ~~The formulation of claim 1 wherein the pH ranges from 5.9 to 6.8.~~
8. (Previously Presented) The formulation of claim 1 wherein the tris-(hydroxymethyl)-aminomethane is present in an amount of 20 to 100 mM.
9. (Previously Presented) The formulation of claim 1 which contains also a non-ionic detergent in an amount ranging from 0.005 to 0.1 % w/v.
10. (Previously Presented) The formulation of claim 9 wherein the non-ionic detergent is a polysorbate.
11. (Original) The formulation according to claim 10 wherein the polysorbate is not produced from materials derived from animals and wherein the content of peroxide is lower than 1.00 $\mu\text{mol/g}$.
12. (Previously Presented) The formulation according to claim 1 which comprises further ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid in an amount of 0.1 to 0.5 mM.
13. (Previously Presented) The formulation of claim 10, wherein the non-ionic detergent is Tween 20 or Tween 80.
14. (Currently Amended) The formulation of claim [7] 1, wherein the pH ranges from 6.2 to 6.6.